

We're all entitled to our own opinions but not to our own facts, and it is a fact that the day President Obama put his hand on the Bible to be sworn in as President of the United States, he inherited a \$1.3 trillion deficit, a record deficit in this country.

This is an opportunity for all of us to stop just talking about the deficit and debts and actually do something about it. For the first time since 2002, Congress will bring, as a matter of law, the commonsense proposition that the Federal Government should pay for what it buys. And the history of success on this is clear. When the Congress lived under the PAYGO rules in the 1990s, we did turn deficits into record surpluses. After PAYGO was abandoned, deficits skyrocketed, our national debt clearly doubled.

Much has been made by the other side of the aisle about the deficit in the first year of the Obama administration. The Congressional Budget Office analysis is pretty clear that the contributors to that were two wars, unpaid for; a record mandatory prescription drug bill, unpaid for; and, of course, two tax cuts that disproportionately benefited the wealthiest Americans, all on our national credit card, all running us deeper into the red.

This legislation says enough is enough, and it says that virtually any new policy that reduces revenue or increases mandatory spending will have to be offset elsewhere in the budget. That is just common sense to every American family. And it says that if for some reason we don't abide by that discipline, you're going to have an across-the-board enforcement mechanism that will sequester the funds.

It's time to do what every family has to do and pay as we go.

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. COBLE) for purposes of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. COBLE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COBLE. I thank the gentleman from Michigan, and I rise in opposition to this reckless spending proposal.

We simply cannot afford to continue on the same course.

Our current debt is \$12.36 trillion. I have opposed past efforts to increase the debt limit, and again today I will vote against raising the limit.

The amount is staggering, \$1.9 trillion. It will raise the limit to \$14.294 trillion—an incomprehensible figure.

Our economy is out of sync—currently we have no comprehensive plan for energy, the federal budget or making our manufacturing base competitive in the global market.

In addition Madame Speaker, I am mystified by the attempt today to force members to simultaneously vote on the debt limit increase and the proposed pay-go rules.

These types of shenanigans—particularly on something as significant as a \$1.9 trillion debt ceiling increase—are exactly why Americans have lost faith in their government.

Now is not the time to increase our debt ceiling—vote “no” on H.J. Res. 45. It will force

the government to focus on the economy and it will start restoring some faith in the Congress.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Ways and Means Committee from Kentucky (Mr. DAVIS).

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. In this time of record debt, high unemployment, and uncertain economic conditions, a focus on fiscal responsibility is critical—real fiscal responsibility, not words like “commonsense” but applying it in a real policy.

For months, President Obama and the majority have talked about the importance of this responsibility, responsibility by tripling Federal spending and then saying we're going to have a freeze. The President has suggested a spending freeze, and we've heard a lot about bending the cost curve with health care reform. But, Madam Speaker, I think we all know that actions speak louder than words.

The fine print in this so-called PAYGO bill is a \$2 trillion increase in the national debt. Just read the bill and you see the truth. It's very different from the rhetoric that we hear. Instead of being true to their word, the majority has increased spending by an unprecedented 66 percent over the last year and pushed the deficit to \$1.4 trillion in 2009, an 800 percent increase over the last administration.

Instead of listening to the American people's pleas that Congress focus on the economy and jobs, they spent the last year pushing an unpopular, ineffective, and wildly expensive government takeover of health care. Instead of taking action on steps that would halt unsustainable spending in Washington, majority leaders are about to vote to increase our debt limit by \$1.9 trillion, the largest one-time increase of the debt in the history of the United States of America.

□ 1430

Madam Speaker, the American people are tired of tightening their budget and counting pennies while the Federal Government continues along a path of irresponsible spending, risky borrowing, and staggering debt.

Washington has a spending problem. It's time to end it. And these days, it seems more like an addiction. Instead of more broken promises to cut spending and reduce the deficit, it's past time for President Obama and Democratic leaders to respond to the American people to end this tyranny of runaway spending in Washington.

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds.

Madam Speaker, you hear a lot about when the debt was incurred. I think it's important that we all understand that the policies that were put in place that caused that debt to be incurred started in 2001 with the economic package. Subsequently, we had the war, and then we had a recession. All that came from 2001 to 2007. That was under the policies of the previous administration and the previous Congress. So I want the Members to keep that in mind.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 1 minute now to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. BOYD for yielding. Let me start by commending our leadership for calling this legislation to the floor to restore the same budget enforcement rules that lead to the record budget surpluses that we enjoyed in the 1990s.

While I commend the Senate for finally approving PAYGO, following our lead in passing it at the beginning of the last Congress, I am deeply disappointed that the Senate could not summon the support to add the national deficit reduction commission to this bill.

The fact that several Senate Republicans who cosponsored the deficit commission, including the minority leader, voted against their own legislation illustrates the deficit of trust mentioned by the President in his State of the Union and is yet another example of the corrosive forces that fuel growing public cynicism about our political process.

Following the Senate's inaction on this issue, I applaud the President's intent to issue by Executive Order a commission to attack the bipartisan deficit, and I am encouraged by reports that the Speaker of the House and the Senate majority leader will call the commission's recommendations to a vote.

Madam Speaker, only strong leadership will propel us to overcome the challenges we face. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM), a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

The scene and the content of this debate is really like a bad movie in a lot of ways. You rewind the tape and we have ultimately had this conversation about a year ago when the Democratic majority, Madam Speaker, said to the American public, look, we want to borrow \$1 trillion, and with that trillion, trust us, it's going to be great. Jobs are going to be created. The sun is going to come out. The tulips are going to be there, and it's all going to be fabulous.

It didn't work out that way. Eleven percent unemployment in the State of Illinois, the difference between the promise of the borrowing, 8 percent unemployment, has now eclipsed to 11 percent in Illinois. And in my home